

QA-569

Perrys Corner Cemetery

Grasonville vicinity, Queen Anne's County

1855-1925

Privately owned

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Perrys Corner Cemetery is a mid-19th to early-20th century church cemetery that consists of six family plots. Only one of the plots, the Hessey Plot, is still discernable. The Hessey Plot, demarcated by a low fence of white PVC pipe, contains three markers: a small arched stone for Susanna W. Bryan (died November 15, 1855), and two flush, hand-carved stones for Georgiana and John Hessey (dates unknown). Perrys Corner Cemetery lies on the north side of Perrys Corner Road, north of the site of the now-demolished Perrys Corner Methodist Episcopal Church, in Perrys Corner, Queen Anne's County.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Perrys Corner Cemetery is a mid-19th to early-20th century cemetery that was associated with Perrys Corner Methodist Church (no longer extant). Perrys Corner Cemetery represents one pattern of burial in rural areas: the church cemetery organized by family plots. Perrys Corner Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in the mid-19th century and constructed in 1881. The church closed in 1939. Known dates of burials in the cemetery range from 1855 to 1925.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-569

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic Perrys Corner Cemetery (preferred)
other Bryantown Cemetery

2. Location

street and number north side Perrys Corner Road east of 1401 Perrys Corner Road — not for publication
city, town Grasonville X vicinity
county Queen Anne's

3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Calvary United Methodist Church
street and number 7113 Maryland Avenue telephone 410-827-7113
city, town Queenstown state MD zip code 21658

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Queen Anne's County Circuit Court liber MWM 115 folio 322
city, town Centreville tax map 65 tax parcel part of 56 tax ID number 05-019583

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	0	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	1	0 sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	0	0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	3	0 objects
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> funerary	4	0 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			0	

7. Description

Inventory No. QA-569

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Perrys Corner Cemetery is a mid-19th to early-20th century church cemetery that consists of six family plots. Only one of the plots, the Hessey Plot, is still discernable. The Hessey Plot, demarcated by a low fence of white PVC pipe, contains three markers: a small arched stone for Susanna W. Bryan (died November 15, 1855), and two flush, hand-carved stones for Georgiana and John Hessey (dates unknown). Perrys Corner Cemetery lies on the north side of Perrys Corner Road, north of the site of the now-demolished Perrys Corner Methodist Episcopal Church, in Perrys Corner, Queen Anne's County.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Perrys Corner Cemetery is a mid-19th to early-20th century church cemetery that consists of six family plots. The cemetery is located on the north side of Perrys Corner Road in Perrys Corner, Queen Anne's County. It is surrounded on the north by woodlands, on the east by a hedge dividing it from a large agricultural field, on the south by the site of Perrys Corner Methodist Episcopal Church, and on the west by the residential property 1401 Perrys Corner Road. The church site is now a grassy lawn. North of the church site, only one of the six family plots, the Hessey Plot, is still discernible. The Hessey Plot measures approximately 12 by 24 feet and is surrounded by a low fence of white PVC pipe. A mature maple tree stands in the west end of the plot, and the plot has a thick overgrowth of ivy. There are three markers: a small arched stone for Susanna W. Bryan (died November 15, 1855), and two flush, hand-carved stones for Georgiana and John Hessey (no dates). The other five family plots in Perrys Corner Cemetery are no longer visible, although the Upper Shore Genealogical Society and Internment.net have published records of burials there. Perrys Corner Cemetery is currently included in a large agricultural parcel owned by Arthur Kudner, Jr. Perrys Corner Methodist Episcopal Church became part of Calvary United Methodist Church in Queenstown ca. 1939, and the church building was demolished in the late 20th century. The neighbors at 1401 Perry's Corner Road currently maintain the Hessey Plot.¹ That plot is in fair condition. Whether any markers in other plots remain just under the surface of the ground is unknown.

¹ The cemetery is part of a mown area the neighbors maintain with their lawn.

8. Significance

Inventory No. QA-569

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <u>funerary</u>

Specific dates 1881 (construction of church)
1939 (closing of church)
1855-1925 (known burial dates)

Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates N/A

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Perrys Corner Cemetery is a mid-19th to early-20th century cemetery that was associated with Perrys Corner Methodist Church. Perrys Corner Cemetery represents one pattern of burial in rural areas: the church cemetery organized by family plots. Perrys Corner Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in the mid-19th century and constructed in 1881. The church closed in 1939. Known dates of burials in the cemetery range from 1855 to 1925.

RESOURCE HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE

Perrys Corner Cemetery is a mid-19th to early-20th century church cemetery that was associated with Perrys Corner Methodist Church. Perrys Corner Cemetery represents one pattern of burial in rural areas: the church cemetery.² This particular church cemetery is organized in a grid of rectangular family-owned plots rather than according to a formal landscape plan. Known dates of burials in the cemetery range from 1855 to 1925. Only three small markers are visible, two of which are hand-carved. Perrys Corner Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in the mid-19th century and met at the schoolhouse across Perrys Corner Road to the south until the church was constructed in 1881.³ The congregation dwindled in the early to mid-20th century, and the church closed ca. 1939.⁴ Remaining members went to Queenstown Methodist Church (now Calvary United Methodist Church).⁵ The church building was demolished during the late 20th century.⁶

The Upper Shore Genealogical Society of Maryland and Interment.net recorded the following gravesites at Perrys Corner Cemetery based on the family records of Bertha Dadds and Josh Jenkins.

Hessey Plot

Susanna W. Bryan, died November 15, 1855 (white marble stone remains)
Georgiana (?) Hessey, wife of John Hessey (hand-carved stone remains)
John Hessey, husband of Georgiana (?) Hessey (hand-carved stone remains)

² The other major pattern in this region was the family cemetery, located on a family's land holdings. (Potter, Elisabeth Walton and Beth M. Boland. *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places*, 4.)

³ Hallman, E. C. *The Garden of Methodism*, 327.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Telephone conversation between Julie Darsie and resident of 1401 Perrys Corner Road, November 14, 2005

⁶ The church still appears on maps and internet sites, however *Queen Anne Remembers: Tombstones of Queen Anne's County*, published in 1994, states that the building was demolished.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-569

Perrys Corner Cemetery

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Merchant/Peinkind Plot

Laura V. Merchant, daughter of Sara Peinkind
Sara Peinkind, mother of Laura V. Merchant

Dadds Plot

William J. Dadds, March 1, 1857 - January 15, 1920, husband of Elizabeth Allen
Elizabeth Allen (Dadds), wife of William J. Dadds
William James Dadds, November 16, 1912 - March 6, 1914, son of James A. and Annie E. Pinder Dadds
Madison B. Dadds, September 6, 1883 - January 16, 1914, son of William J. and Elizabeth T. Allen Dadds
John W. Dadds, died October 20, 1901, husband of Hettie L. Chance, son of William J. and Elizabeth T. Allen Dadds

Wrightson Plot

Clara Caulk Wrightson, wife of George Gustus Wrightson
Baby son Wrightson

Usilton/Lloyd Plot

Mary Usilton
Hattie Usilton
Edward T. Lloyd,
Mrs. Edward T. Lloyd
Strannahan Plot

Albert Strannahan,
Mrs. Albert Strannahan,
Margaret Strannahan Ruth

Other Burials

William Mason,
Mrs. William Mason, nee Biley,
Walter Mason
Mrs. Burley Thompkins
Noah K. Blount
Mrs. Noah K. Blount
James Kersey Sewell (Sr.), January 12, 1852 - March 15, 1920, husband of Martha Elizabeth Sewell, son of Edward H. and Mary E. Sewell
Martha Elizabeth Sewell, September 9, 1856 - October 1, 1882, wife of James Kersey Sewell (Sr.), daughter of Peter and Sarah A. Horney
James Kersey Sewell (Jr.), April 25, 1880 - February 21, 1925, husband of Julia Melvina Sewell, son of James Kersey and Martha Elizabeth Sewell.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. QA-569

Hallman, E. C. *The Garden of Methodism*. Baltimore: Peninsula Annual Conference of the Methodist Church, 1948.

Jenkins, Josh. Perrys Corner Cemetery (Bryantown Cemetery), Grasonville, Queen Anne County, Maryland. www.interment.net.

Potter, Elisabeth Walton and Beth M. Boland. *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places*. U.S. Department of the Interior: National Park Service, 1992.

Queen Anne Remembers: Tombstones of Queen Anne's County, Maryland (Volume 1). Upper Shore Genealogical Society of Maryland, 1994.

Telephone conversation between Julie Darsie and Melvin family of 1401 Perrys Corner Road, November 14, 2005.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property approximately 1 acre
Acreage of historical setting unknown
Quadrangle name Queenstown

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Perrys Corner Cemetery is bounded on the north by a wooded area, on the east by a hedge separating it from an agricultural field, on the south by Perrys Corner Road, and on the west by 1401 Perrys Corner Road. This boundary encompasses approximately 1 acre and includes the cemetery and the site of the church. It is not a distinct tax parcel, rather it is part of Queen Anne's County Tax Map 65, Parcel 56.

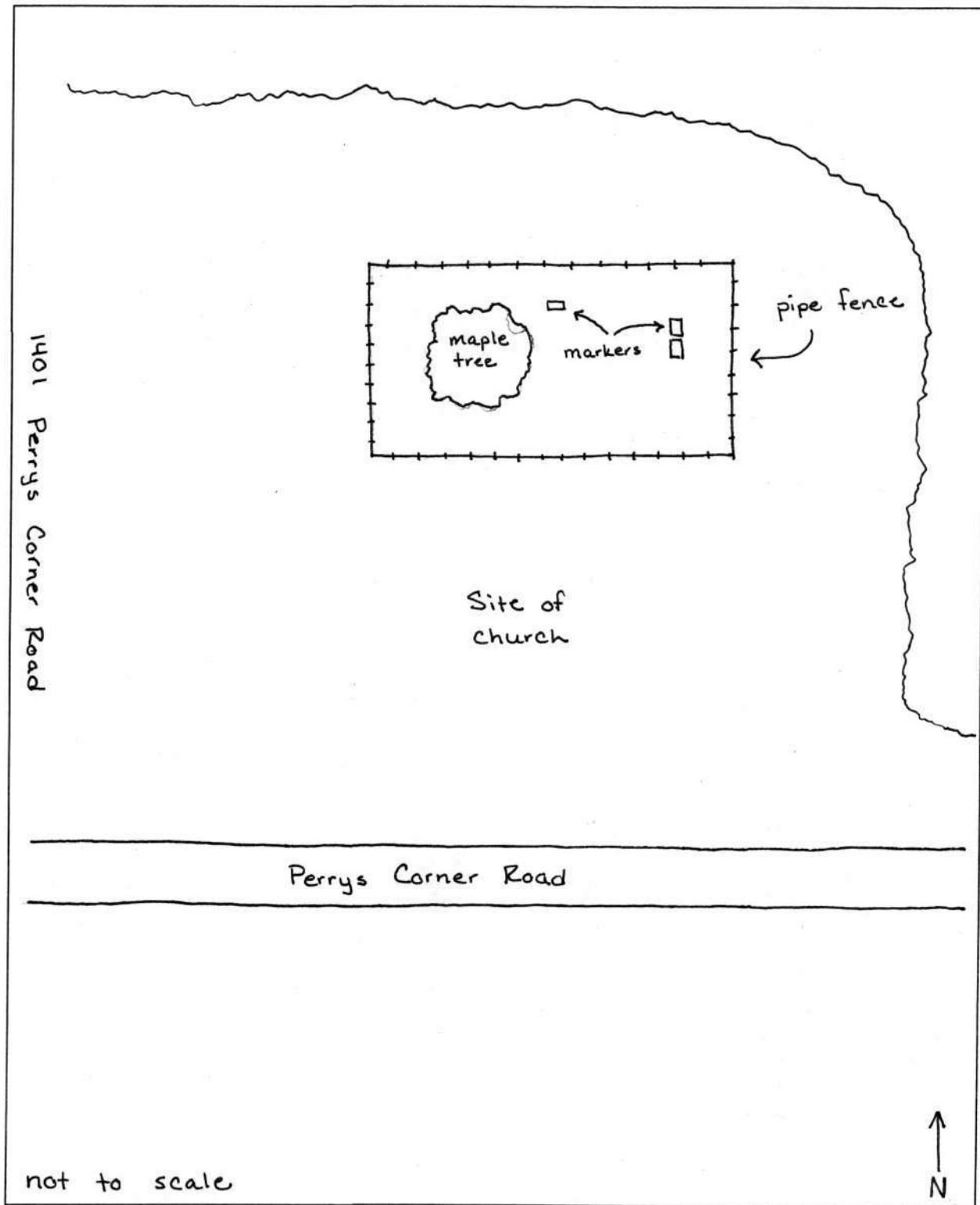
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Julie Darsie		
organization	Betty Bird & Associates LLC	date	December 2005
street & number	2607 24 th St., NW, Suite 3	telephone	(202) 588-9033
city or town	Washington, D.C.	state	N/A

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



Site Plan
QA-569
Perrys Corner Cemetery
Grasonville Vicinity, Queen Anne's County, Maryland

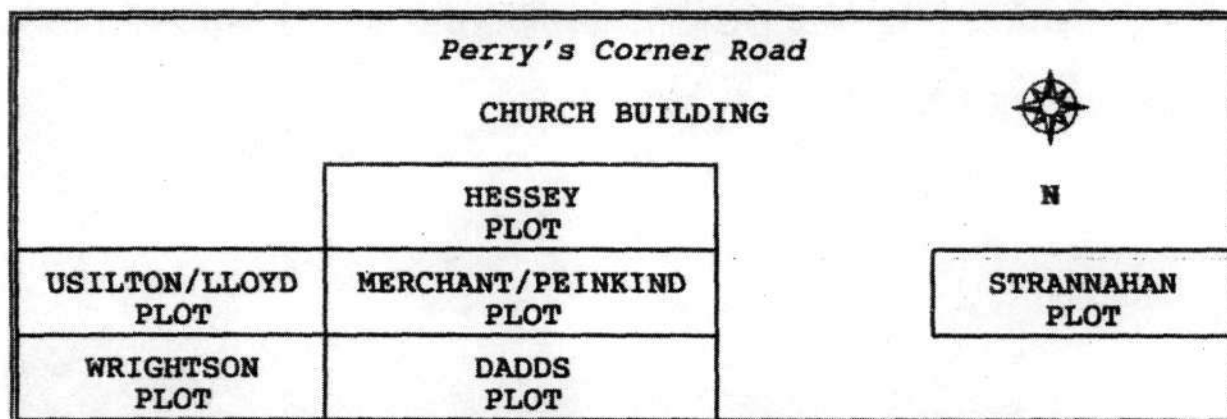


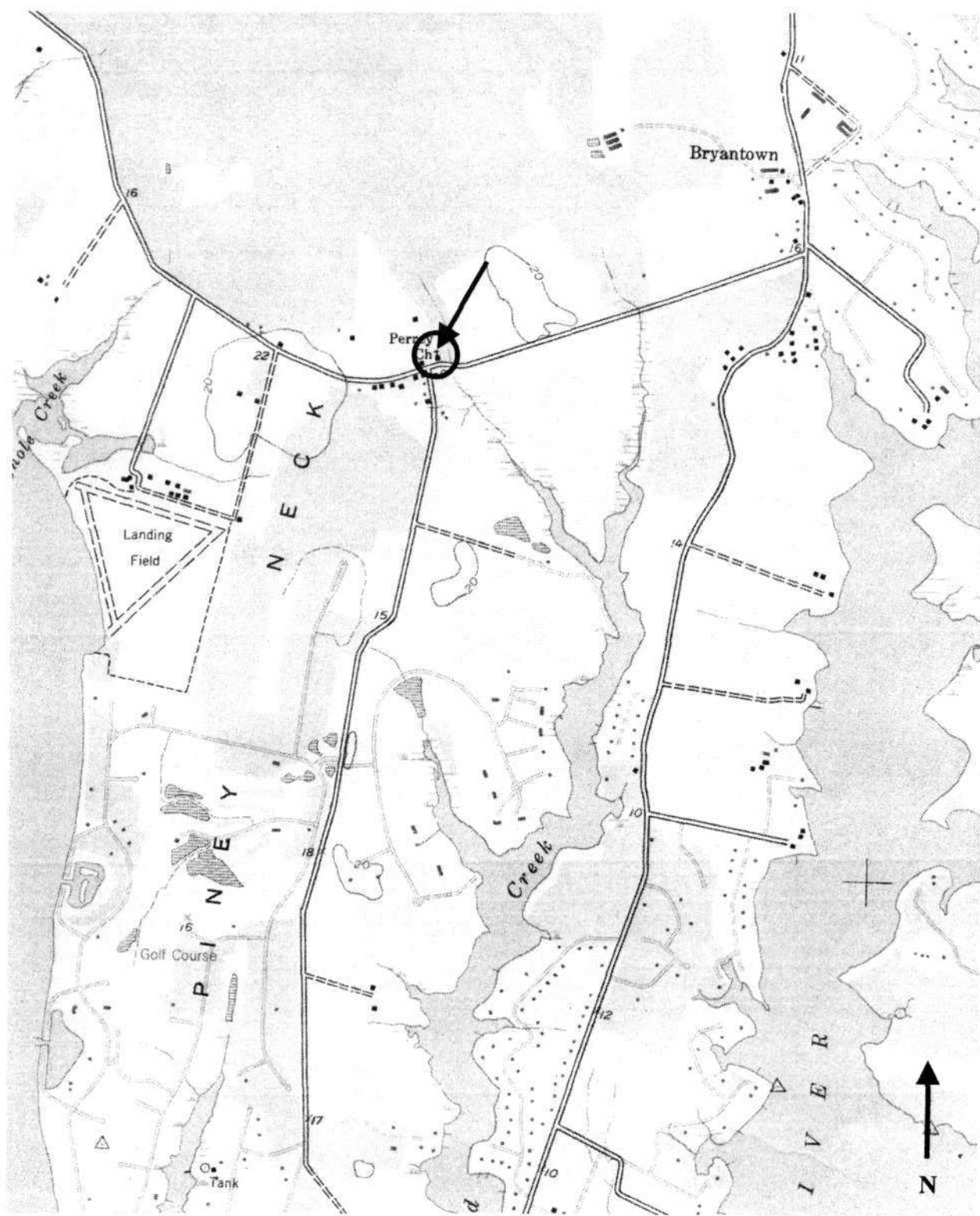
Diagram of Plots

QA-569

Perrys Corner Cemetery

Grasonville vicinity, Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Source: *Queen Anne Remembers: Tombstones of Queen Anne's County, Maryland, Volume 1*



QA-569

Perrys Corner Cemetery

Grasonville vicinity, Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Queenstown, Maryland Quadrangle (1:24,000)



QA 564

Perrys Corner Cemetery

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO

Perrys Corner Cemetery from Perrys Corner Road.
View to north,

1 of 4

2005-11-06 11:06 AM - 7852



QA-569

Perrys Corner Cemetery

Queen Anns County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO

Perrys Corner Cemetery from site of demolished church.

2 of 4

2002 - 11/11/05 11:11:11



QA-569

Perrys Corner Cemetery

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO

Hand-carved stones for Georgiana (?) and John
Hessey.

3 of 4

2002-11-06 11:06 AM 98-11-6202



QA-569

Perrys Corner Cemetery

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Julie Darsie for Betty Bird & Associates

November 2005

MD SHPO

Stone for Susanna W. Bryan

4 of 4

2002 11 06 HP/HH - 2002